# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS Ethridge A. King, Jr. Larry W. Ward

Charles J. Marquardt

Victoria A. Harris

51 Inman Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1732 • Telephone 617-349-4361 • TTY: 617-492-0235 Fax: 617-349-4366 • Email: Elections2@cambridgema.gov • Website: www.cambridgema.gov/election

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Tanya L. Ford-Crump

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Lesley Waxman

# BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS MEETING Minutes of December 5, 2019

\*This meeting was originally scheduled for December 3, 2019.

The Chair called to order the meeting at 5:30pm on December 5, 2019 at 51 Inman Street. Present were Commissioner Victoria Harris, Commissioner Charles Marquardt, Commissioner Ethridge King, and Assistant Director Lesley Waxman.

Motion:

Approve the Minutes of November 6, 2019 with corrections

Moved:

**Commissioner Harris** 

Seconded:

Commissioner Marguardt

Passed:

3-0

Motion:

Approve the Minutes of November 15, 2019 with corrections

Moved:

**Commissioner Harris** 

Seconded:

Commissioner Marquardt

passed:

3-0

#### **II: REPORTS**

#### Assistant Director's Report - R1

The Assistant Director reported the City Solicitor's Office gave a legal opinion regarding a campaign finance violation allegation that was made during public comment at the October 2, 2019 meeting. Basically, the opinion states that the Election Commission does not have the legal authority to enforce allegations of campaign finance violations. Based on the legal opinion (see R2) that authority rests with the Office of Campaign and Political Finance.

The Assistant Director reported the yellow and green cards that were used for the first time were very helpful with the address affirmation forms. The Board will conduct a more comprehensive election review next meeting when the Executive Director returns from vacation.

The Assistant Director report the following important dates:

Election Worker Recruitment Wednesday, July 22

#### **Election training dates:**

March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary

- Saturday February 15, 2020
- Wednesday February 19, 2020

September 1, 2020 State Primary (date still pending in the legislature)

- Saturday August 22, 2020
- Wednesday August 26, 2020

November 3, 2020 State/Presidential Election

- Wednesday October 21, 2020
- Saturday October 24, 2020

Early voting for the presidential primary will be the last week of February. More details on the exact dates and locations will be made available in the near future.

### **III COMMISIONERS REPORTS**

Commissioner King reported that 1773 Massachusetts Avenue is not a valid address.

#### IV: PUBLIC COMMENT

In attendance: Gary Mello and John Hawkinson.

MR. Mello voiced his disagreement with the legal opinion of the City Solicitor's office regarding his request that the Board investigate his allegation that a that a City Councilor violated the campaign finance law.

Mr. Hawkinson commented on the voter machines processing time.

#### 1: OLD BUSINESS - None

Next meeting will be held on December 18, 2019 at 5:30pm at 51 Inman Street

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting at 6:41 pm

Moved:

**Commissioner Harris** 

Seconded:

Commissioner Marquardt

Passed:

3-0

A True Record

Attested by:

Ethridge King, Secretary